AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 26, and ending at page 12, line 11, with the following amended paragraph:

A web of the present invention preferably exhibits a percent consolidation area of between about 22% and about 50% prior to mechanical post-treatment. Without being bound by theory, it is believed that higher consolidation areas, up to 60% or 70%, can be utilized with similarly-beneficial results. Therefore, typical consolidated nonwoven webs as purchased from nonwoven vendors must be further consolidated by additional consolidation, e.g., point bonding, to achieve the levels of abrasion resistance desired for some components of disposable absorbent articles, such as backsheets for diapers. This additional consolidation via additional point bonding, termed "overbonding" herein, is effective at increasing the abrasion resistance of the web because the higher the consolidation area, the more fibers are constrained by bonding to adjacent fibers, and therefore, fuzzing is decreased and abrasion resistance is increased. Therefore, in general, the higher the consolidation area, the less fuzzing is experienced for a given fibrous nonwoven web. However, as discussed above, a higher consolidation area typically produces a stiffer web, and therefore, a less soft web. Bending rigidity correlates with softness, such that ~~an increase~~ a decrease in bending rigidity corresponds to an increase in softness, that is, perceived softness when handled by a user or felt by a wearer.